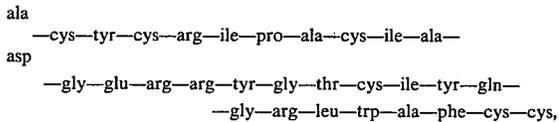


aa¹⁷, aa¹⁹ and aa²⁸ are hydroxy substituted amino acids;

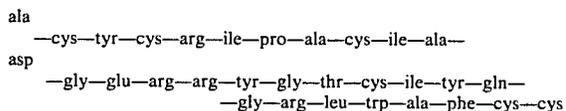
aa²² is an aliphatic amino acid of from 5 to 6 carbon atoms.

7. A method according to claim 1, wherein said cationic oligopeptide is of the formula:



where ala, -, and asp indicate either no amino acid or one of the indicated amino acids.

8. A cationic oligopeptide of the formula:



where ala, -, and asp indicate either no amino acid or one of the indicated amino acids.

9. In a formulation capable of supporting undesired microbial growth, the improvement which comprises including in said formulation in an amount sufficient to inhibit microbial growth, a cationic oligopeptide according to claim 8.

10. A formulation according to claim 9, having a liquid carrier.

11. A formulation according to claim 9, having a solid carrier.

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